12/15/64 Book to be out in March (to beat Mark Lane's, then scheduled for March). Ledes phoned Florida in my presence to see if automatic tupesetting would be available. It was, supposedly. He told me this meant the ms could go directly into page proof, which he'd have in two days after printer got ms. A special typewriter type would be required, and he'd arrange for it. We could index from page proof while reading it.

Brown- they were to be my agents, draw contract between Brown and me. Ivan is author of financial provisions for Brown. O iffered in addition sharing of prizes. When this wasn't done, Brown told me they's told him a different form of the contract would be better and it would be forthcoming. Thereafter they kept saying their litigation with McKay made it impossible for them to get around to drafting the contract. I believe once the arbitration was agreed to they promised both this and the advance. The story had been that all their money was tied up and they had no cash.

Schedule Before agreement ~~with~~ was drafted, apparently on basis of first turn down, they advertised book with my title in Publisher's weekly (dated January 25, 1965). Title also included in alphabetical title listing printed by magazine. Listed then for May, without consultation with me. March date had been part of agreement. I didn't learn this until 3/30, when Ernie Berger showed me.

2/23/65 Despite earlier phone conversation, Ivan seemed even more excited. Asked me to be ready to travel all around country with him. Asked me to go over incomplete Brown ms (he said Brown said Brown and I were to jointly draft remainder, which was news to me and opposed to my last words with Brown) and make notes that would in effect destroy it. Also asked me to write Brown a letter demanding return of all my materials, etc. I agreed, but asked that John Ledes, who ~~xxxx~~ is a lawyer, draft it. He was supposed to but never gave it to me if he drafted it. Ivan took Janie and me to lunch, where we were joined by John, later. We had been talking about the thing I had that I had never mentioned to him before. When John came in Ivan was like a boy, saying ~~tell~~ "Tell John about..." about the things I had mentioned. In turn John was so excited he said he knew Jake Ehrlick and would get him to write a preface. All of this was well after the had gotten the first of my ms and after they had gotten the last of it, which, presumeably, Ivan and Janie had read. Ivan subsequently admitted that he had not told the truthwhen he told me he had ready my ms. Janie had asked me to point out the fatal flaws in the Brown stuff and I had, which I believe preceeded Ivan's asking me to write Brown.

Departure from the agreed size of the book was also without consultation with me. I learned it only after Brown admitted he couldn't keep his agreement except by a 250-page book with an appendix. At that time I believe John told me that this was out but they had decided upon a $5.00 rather than a $6.50 book. Departure from the appearance schedule was reported to me at the lunch the 23rd. I never did understand the necessity. At one point John had told me the special mechanical typesetting would not be available until the first of April. The first day he had told me of its greater cost, but had said it was worth it for speed, that the book had to come out right away. Even after I began writing the book, Ivan told me not to worry about time, that he had several weeks of "fat" in the schedule.In the lunch discussion Ivan said the book would be out in June.

When I first began to worry about Brown keeping his agreement Johnassured me not to worry, that he always kept his deadlines. When I reported my fear of Brown's departure from the agreed form and content of the book, John told me not to worry about that, either, because he'd take care of it. And when I reported Brown's offer to withdraw, John agreed, saying I&d wrote a better book, anyway. I was to send it up as fast as I could, the first chapter by the following Monday (I sent much more, complete with a table of contents and a dsecription of the contents of those chapters to be written). I gathered this first chapter was to be a sample of my writing and style.

When I first began working with Janie, it had been the plan (at least as I understood it) for me to work on the Brown stuff in her presence and to be available for any questions she might want to ask. The copy of the ms Ivan has will show that I agreed to all the changes she wanted to make, up to where Dick and I were in the Tippit chapter. Even there, on the last specific recommedation of a change, I agreed to his suggestion for a change in language and wrote it out in longhand while he continued reading. This was the last specific change in language discussed and they never returned to it. In the second of third chapter Dick Brennan turned to me and said "you write very well, Harold", much to my suprise. At the beginning of these session I had agreed to waive all considerations of style but not content. I had earlier told John over the phone that if he doubted this, to give me whatever he wanted in writing and I'd sign it. My purpose was to assure him I wanted the book done as fast as possible and I'd waive stylistic changes, even if I didn't agree with them in order to accomplish this and make up for as much as possible of the lost time. I had told Janie and Dick the same thing. None of our sessions could be called a day's work. The first day Janie kept me waiting in the cold outside her apartment, I believe if was Monday, I stood there so long in the cold I got ill. The longest day we put in was perhaps six hours. Several times there were lengthy personal interruptions. Once she got a visit from a girl whi, I believe, was to be married. Earlier she had had deliveries, including, apparently, the dress she was to wear at this weddding. I could hear her girlish squeels of delight when both were examining the dress in the bedroom. I expected to work Sunday. She didn't. She was to call me Sunday and tell me what time to be at her apartment Monday. She didN't. I called her Monday a.m. and she apologized. I got there at the appointed time and had to wait. I waited for her several times. On the business of the chronology I never could get an explanation of what she meant. Dick walked me to my car and I asked him, also fruitlessly. There was to have been a meeting of the three of us with John the next day. It never happened. That, Dick indicated, would give me a better idea of what they had in mind. I explained again the reason for the organization of the book as it was and asked him (as I had earlier asked both) to explain any difficiencies. They didn't. As late as my departure from the office the last time, when Janie took me to the elevator, I repeated this question. She just didn't answer. Next to the last day we worked, if that is what it can be called, in Janie's apartment I offered to drive Dick to his destination or his subway and I thought he indicated he'd like that (I believe he already had his coat on) when Janie said she had some errands she wanted to ask him to run, so I went alone. The next, the last day we were together, it turned out that they had wanted to talk things over in my absence, for it was then the nonsense of the chronology began. I met Janie at the office, and she asked me first to write an explanation of the philosophy of the book as organized and then to re-outline it. I was almost finished with the explanation when she came to where I was working and without asking my permission separated the original and carbons of what I had written and took a set herself. I told her I hand't corrected it. The last page was still in the macgibe. She then pretended she hadn't asked me to do this, only to re-outline. On the Brown stuff, she pretended my making the notes I did is not what she wanted. She had never told we what, if anything, she wanted. It was Ivan who had discussed this with me. But the outline we worked out the afternoon in her apartment, with Dick seeming to agree with me on much of it, was substantially the outline of the book as drafted. She is the one who did the writing. I never saw it. The next day, when I asked her about this, her reply was merely that she had changed her mind.

In retrospect, I wonder if she is an editor. She seemed to spend much of the time we were to have been editing at the office doing other things. And if she were a competent editor, why did they need Dick? He is not employed as an editor, from what Janie told me, but workis in an advertising agency.

I was the only one in the office the appinted time on the morning of the four-way conference. Janie came it and ignored me, never even saying good morning. Some time later I asked her why Dick wasn't there and she told me it was very strange, that he hadn't even called her. Meanwhile, I worked on the biography they wanted. About 1:30 Janie went in and spent a half hour with Ivan. When she came out she told me to go in. I hadn't even reached a chair when he announced "I'm afraid I have bad news for you". It then turned out that they thought the book wasn't a book and were going to withdraw it. I told him to return my ms, but it seemed to me that if he couldn't tell me what waswrong he hadn't read it and ought to before telegraphing the withdrawal to the salesmen. He agreed to read it overnight and I said I'd bein in the morning. John, who had been unpleasant all day, the few times I had seen him, protest Ivan had other things he had to do andnIvan said he'd have a decision or the m for me Monday. I agreed. as I left I asked for the promised expense money, some of wbich was several months overdue. I said I had less than $20.00 on which to get home. Ivan said he was broke, too. I never coud get any comprehensible explanation from any of them. John blurted things out disagreeably. The only specific thing he mentioned was an accusation of perjury against Markham. If wwong, this was a trivial matter, easily correctd with a pencil. A s a matter of fact, I had earlier disuussed just this kind of thing over the phone to him, reading a paragpragh by way of illustration, and asked if he as a lawyer would check for such things. He said that would happen. The onhy other thing I got was "It just isn't a book", but no explanation. I wondered at the time who had been telling John what. In the first meeting I soon learned Larry had apparently brainwashed Ivan and had taken the ms to him, still including the errors I had marked in that part I had read.

I wrote Ivan before I left New York. He called me the day after I got home and said he'd need about ten days. I wrote confirming this and was called by Veronica who said he'd need a lit le more time. I asked her to find out from him when and let me know. She hadn't. I then wrote Ivan and he hasn't answered.

By previous agreement my conversations with Ivan and John and most of those with Brown are on tape. The tapes record the agreement.